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the authorities as to impressment and fixed prices of supplies for the army, which discouraged such cultivation of the land as might have gone on even under the conditions of war.

In spite of the scarcity of material and difficulty of access to the sources, or perhaps because of these obstacles, Professor Schwab's treatise is a most valuable narrative of the struggle from the industrial, and more particularly from the financial point of view. The reader sometimes wishes that the space occupied by the innumerable comparisons might have been given to human touches of explanation which would have explained the lack of financial leadership, contrasting with the brilliant military records. Sometimes, too, there is a suggestion of the mechanical in the succession of citations in cases where similarities were so great that to refer to differences — as in the case of the policy adopted by the several states with reference to the same question, would have given greater clearness to the narrative. But these are small and carping criticisms of a faithful and sympathetic presentation which should be heartily welcomed by the student of this the crucial period in our country's history.

S. P. BRECKINRIDGE.

Reconstruction in Mississippi. By JAMES WILFORD GARNER. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1901, 8vo, pp. xiii+422.

THIS presentation of "a period too little studied as yet and of capital importance in our constitutional history" is a timely one, and an illustration of the statement ventured recently that "even the period of the reconstruction can now be judged fairly enough." In view of late constitutional and political developments in many of the southern states by which, it is believed, the work of reconstruction is being undone and its effects nullified, such a study has peculiar value. In interpreting such phenomena, answers must be sought to the questions: What was attempted by the reconstruction policy? Wherein did that policy succeed temporarily? Which of its results have stood the test of a quarter of a century, to be then, perhaps, overthrown?

With reference to one state, Mississippi, taken as illustrative, the writer has supplied answers to these queries in a discussion which is dispassionate and scholarly and at the same time most sympathetic.

Politically, interest centers in the causes leading to the substitution

of the "congressional" for the "presidential" policy of reconstruction; the relation of the military to the civil authorities; the admission of the freedmen to the electorate; the readmission of the state to the Union under humiliating conditions; the subjection of the state to government by "carpet-baggers," "scalawags," and freedmen; and the "revolution of 1875," leading to the expulsion of the carpet-bagger, the rejection of the scalawag, and the relegation of the freedmen to a subordinate position in the political life of the state.

Economically, the situation was scarcely less dramatic. Its important elements were the destruction of all material forms of wealth by the ravages of war; the destruction of labor force through the effects of military service on both races and of emancipation on the colored man; the enormous burden of taxation laid by the Federal Government and the extravagant administration of state authorities; and the readjustment of the labor system growing out of the substitution of free for slave labor. Each of these items receives intelligent treatment.

For the student of general social development, the chapters devoted to "Educational Reconstruction" (X), the "Kuklux Disturbances" (IX), and the "Freedmen's Bureau" (IV) will have a special interest.

The excellent construction of the volume from a mechanical point of view may well be noticed. The main discussion shows an admirable self-restraint; while the multitude of footnotes and references not only indicate the thoroughness with which the sources of information have been utilized, but add information of a social, personal, and local character, such as to illumine the subject and intensify the interest of the matter presented.

S. P. B.

Beiträge zur Geschichte des Judenrechts im Mittelalter (mit besonderer Bedachtnahme auf die Länder der österreichisch-ungarischen Monarchie). Band I. *Die Rechtsverhältnisse der Juden in den deutsch-österreichischen Ländern.* By DR. J. B. SCHERER. Leipzig: Duncker & Humblot, 1901. 8vo, pp. xi+671.

THE present volume begins with a lengthy introduction wherein are discussed the principles which during the middle ages governed general European legislation about the Jews. The author then goes on to his chief subject, the legal conditions of the Jews in Upper and Lower Austria, and to this he finally attaches a survey of their situation as well in Styria, Carenthia, and neighboring provinces under the